Observations of Comets made at the Royal Observatory, Blackford Hill, Edinburgh.

(*Communicated by the Astronomer Royal for Scotland.*)

The following observations were made by Dr. J. Halm with the 15-inch Dunecht Refractor and the wire micrometer, except the second observation of December 11, which was made by Professor Copeland.

The adopted position of the new Transit House is

Lat. $+55^\circ\ 55'\ 28''\cdot0$.

Long. West $12^m\ 44^s\cdot2$.

The 15-inch Refractor stands $0^s\cdot2$ east of the Transit House.

Swift (1895 *Aug.* 20).

1895.	M.T. Edinburgh.	(☄−∗) Δα.	(☄−∗) Δδ.	No. of Comp.	α App.	Log $p\Delta$.	δ App.	Log $p\Delta$.	Reduction to App. Pl.	∗
	h m s	m s	′ ″		h m s		° ′ ″		s ″	
Oct. 16	11 3 49	−0 34·02	−2 39·7	18, 7	1 26 34·70	8·786n	+3 40 24·0	0·848	+3·97 +27·3	1
17	9 45 9	−0 28·46	−5 4·0	36, 12	1 26 40·27	9·214n	+3 37 59·7	0·851	+3·98 +27·3	1
18	10 52 41	−0 33·26	...	24, 0	1 26 45·60	8·788n	...	...	+3·99	2
18	10 59 6	...	+2 17·5	0, 9	...	...	+3 35 36·7	0·849	+27·3	2

Perrine (1895 *Nov.* 16).

Nov. 18	18 13 29	+7 27·78	−3 52·2	9, 3	13 48 15·32	9 442n	+0 48 18·7	0·866	+1·90 −17·0	3

Brooks (1895 *Nov.* 21).

Dec. 7	9 8 48	−2 42·30	...	15, 0	8 21 36·06	9·644n	...	...	+5·63 ...	4
8	11 13 11	...	−1 16·8	0, 3	...	...	+45 2 55·3	0·513	... −13·5	5
9	9 55 12	+1 42·01	−1 28·3	18, 9	7 57 29·81	9·683n	+48 36 38·6	0·572	+6·51 −12·0	6
9	11 57 11	+1 16·17	+2 29·0	10, 5	7 56 23·71	9·527n	+48 55 14·2	0·303	+6·53 −11·9	7
11	8 39 7	−2 49·88	+0 3·8	20, 10	7 30 9·03	9·762n	+54 59 41·7	0·567	+7·43 − 9·2	8
11	9 56 12	−0 44·20	+6 37·0	4, 4	7 29 19·74	9·717n	+55 9 17 6	0·370	+7·45 − 8·8	9
11	11 34 16	−1 41·81	−5 10·9	12, 6	7 28 17·15	9·560n	+55 21 7·0	9·976	+7·51 − 8·9	10
13	11 2 27	−1 7·95	+4 23·9	14, 7	6 56 2·04	9·600n	+60 21 24·9	9·088	+8·50 − 3·6	11
20	8 33 57	+0 45·76	+5 18·9	10, 8	4 49 46·78	9·711n	+68 28 38·4	0·049n	+10·05 +19·7	12

Mean Places of Comparison Stars.

No.	α 1895 o.	δ 1895·0.	Authority.
	h m s	° ′ ″	
1	1 27 4·75	+3 42 36·4	A.G.Z. Albany.
2	1 27 14·87	+3 32 51·9	,, ,,
3	13 40 45·64	+0 52 27·9	,, ,,
4	8 24 12·73	+40 34 37·1	A.G.Z. Bonn.
5	8 10 23·53	+45 4 25·6	,, ,,
6	7 55 41·29	+48 38 18·9	,, ,,
7	7 55 1·01	+48 52 57·1	,, ,,
8	7 32 51·48	+54 59 47·1	A.G.Z. Hels. Gotha.
9	7 29 56·49	+55 2 49·4	Comp. with A.G.Z. Hels. Gotha, 5·77.
10	7 29 51·45	+55 26 26·8	A.G.Z. Hels. Gotha.
11	6 57 1·49	+60 17 4·6	,, ,,
12	4 48 50·97	+68 22 59·8	A.G.Z. Christiania.

Notes.

Comet *Swift* was always very faint and without a distinct nucleus.

Comet *Perrine* bright, with a nucleus of about sixth magnitude and a tail extending due north.

Comet *Brooks* exceedingly faint and of irregular outline; very difficult to observe on account of its want of any precise nucleus.

Observations of Comets made at the Royal Observatory, Blackford Hill, Edinburgh (15-inch Refractor and Wire Micrometer).

(*Communicated by the Astronomer Royal for Scotland.*)

☄ *Perrine* (1895 Nov. 16).

1896.	M.T. Edinburgh.	(☄−✱) Δα.	(☄−✱) Δδ.	No. of Comp.	α App.	Log $p\Delta$.	δ App.	Log $p\Delta$.	✱
	h m s	m s	′ ″		h m s		° ′ ″		
Feb. 23	17 44 38	−0 39·34	−0 46·1	14, 6	19 46 34·26	9·442*n*	+ 0 21 58·2	0·860	1
Mar. 1	16 36 38	+1 31·12	−0 57·3	21, 7	19 46 52·84	9·484*n*	+ 2 15 38·3	0·858	2
3	16 30 31	−0 22·14	+6 49·8	36, 12	19 46 48·69	9·483*n*	+ 2 48 23·2	0·857	3
9	16 29 19	−2 31·90	+2 36·3	36, 12	19 46 9·59	9·460*n*	+ 4 27 24·6	0·851	4

☄ *Perrine-Lamp* (1896 Feb. 14).

Mar. 3	10 14 55	−1 58·36	−5 39·7	21, 7	1 6 59·69	9·670	+51 45 16·1	0·807	5
3	17 15 31	+1 43·86	−1 31·3	21, 7	1 12 57·53	9·562*n*	+51 46 26·4	0·867	6
5	9 14 32	−0 34·94	+7 16·6	21, 7	1 43 12·65	9·723	+51 34 27·8	0·699	7
5	9 46 46	−0 41·95	+8 37·0	18, 6	1 43 34·57	9·711	+51 34 8·2	0·744	8
6	7 7 30	+0 39·00	+5 2·2	6, 2	1 57 23·96	9·672	+51 18 22·0	0·443	9
6	10 39 15	+1 59·95	+3 21·4	18, 6	1 59 32·59	9·681	+51 15 10 8	0·793	10
8	11 7 20	+4 23 22	−3 49·2	18, 6	2 25 24·93	9·663	+50 25 45·8	0·808	11
9	7 39 51	−0 56·62	+0 58·8	24, 8	2 34 37·93	9·667	+50 2 25·6	0·483	12
9	9 10 37	−1 12·56	+3 49·8	24, 8	2 35 16·69	9·711	+50 0 38·4	0·653	13
9	10 26 33	+0 14·41	−2 17·5	5, 5	2 35 48·96	9·695	+49 59 9·3	0·758	12

Mean Places of Comparison Stars.

No.	α 1896·0. h m s	δ 1896·0. ° ′ ″	Reduction to app. place. s ′	Authority.
1	19 47 13·64	+ 0 22 56·5	−0·04 −12·2	Schj.
2	19 45 21·62	+ 2 16 48·6	+0·10 −13·0	Bonn. Obs. 1855.
3	19 47 10·66	+ 2 41 46·5	+0·17 −13·1	A.G.Z. Albany.
4	19 48 41·23	+ 4 25 1·9	+0·26 −13·6	,, ,,
5	1 8 59·21	+51 50 43·1	−1·16 +12·7	A.G.Z. Camb. Mass.
6	1 11 14·81	+51 47 44·9	−1·14 +12·8	,, ,,
7	1 43 48·44	+51 26 56·4	−0·85 +14·8	,, ,,
8	1 44 17·37	+51 25 16·4	−0·85 +14·8	,, ,,
9	1 56 45·69	+51 13 4·3	−0·73 +15·5	,, ,,
10	1 57 33·37	+51 11 33·9	−0·73 +15·5	,, ,,
11	2 21 2·21	+50 29 18·6	−0·50 +16·4	,, ,,
12	2 35 34·90	+50 1 9·9	−0·35 +16·9	A.G.Z. Bonn.
13	2 36 29·59	+49 56 31·7	−0·34 +16·9	,, ,,

Comet Perrine very faint on March 3 and 9.

Comet Perrine-Lamp bright and highly condensed towards the centre, but without a distinct nucleus.

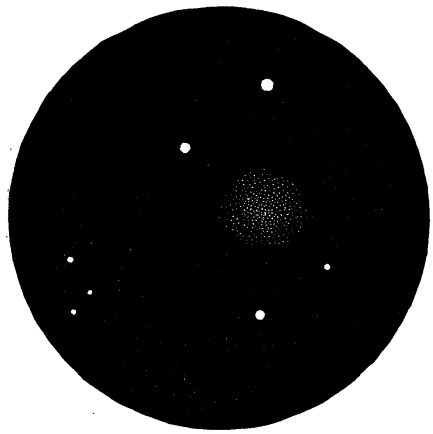
The observations were made by Dr. J. Halm, except the last measure, on March 9, which was made by Professor Copeland.

Royal Observatory, Blackford Hill:
1896 *March* 12.

Discovery and Observations of Comet Brooks (d 1895).

By W. R. Brooks.

I have the honour to communicate to the Society some notes on the discovery and observations of my comet of November 21. While sweeping the south-eastern heavens with the 10-inch equatorial, at about 14 hours, standard 75th meridian time, I picked up a large nebulous mass, which I at once recognised as new.



Discovery field. Comet Brooks.

The discovery place was R.A. $9^h\ 51^m\ 50^s$, Decl. S. 17° 40′.

I give herewith a chart of the discovery field.

In a few minutes after securing the discovery position the sky, which up to that time had been remarkably clear, became clouded, but fortunately not before I had detected motion, which proved to be rapid and in a northerly direction. For over an hour not a star was to be seen in any part of the heavens, but by the driving-clock the telescope was kept on the object, hoping for a break in the clouds. This came in about an hour, and the direction of the comet's motion was ascertained beyond a doubt. The morning was intensely cold, the thermometer standing at 10° above zero, and when a little later I went down to the telegraph office, about one mile distant, to announce the discovery, it was snowing furiously.

Nearly a week of storms and cloudy weather followed, so that it was not until the sixth morning after the discovery that I was able to secure another observation of the comet.

It had in this interval, with its rapid motion of three degrees daily, moved over a great distance, so that on the morning of November 27, $15^h\ 40^m$, it was observed in R.A. $9^h\ 29^m\ 30^s$; Decl. N. 0° 47′; and the comet appeared larger and brighter than at discovery.